



47th ANNUAL APPALACHIAN STUDIES CONFERENCE
Beloved Community: Pride in Identity, Culture, and Geography
Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, North Carolina
March 7 - 9, 2024



**PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE PROGRAM AND
REGISTRATION FORM**

WELCOME

Dear ASA 2024 Participants and Attendees:

We are thrilled to welcome you to ASA 2024, “Beloved Community: Pride in Identity, Culture, and Geography,” and to the campus of Western Carolina University. Beloved as a noun refers to something or someone that is precious and close to our hearts. Beloved as an adjective describes the intense feeling we may have about that adored thing or person.

The 47th annual ASA conference focuses on our region as both a geographical place and a cultural space that is sacred as well as something that we hold dear in our hearts. Appalachia is not a simple region, and we appreciate the complications within it. We are thrilled to welcome you to Western Carolina University to join us in celebrating the unique diversity of our region and our people!

Conference Chair, Rachel Adams

Program Chair, Liz Harper

Campus Arrangements Chair, Amber C. Albert

ASA MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Appalachian Studies Association is to promote and engage dialogue, research, scholarship, education, creative expression, and action among a diverse and inclusive group of

scholars, educators, practitioners, grassroots activists, students, individuals, groups and institutions. Our mission is driven by our commitment to foster quality of life, democratic participation and appreciation of Appalachian experiences regionally, nationally and internationally.

CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS

Conference Chair: Rachel Adams with the help of Maggie Ashely, Carolyn Callahan, and Laura Allison

Program Chair: Liz Harper

Local Arrangement Chairs: Amber C. Albert (WCU), Natalie Newman (Sylva), and Sara Snyder Hopkins (Cherokee)

Interns: PJ Parker and Dovon Alston

CONFERENCE SITE

Western Carolina University (WCU)

As the westernmost institution in the University of North Carolina System, WCU attracts students from around the globe for its nationally ranked programs, affordability through NC Promise, and exceptional student support. Recognized as a top adventure college and surrounded by the Blue Ridge and Great Smoky Mountains, students can explore the region's vast natural diversity through unrivaled experiential learning and recreational activities.

Offering residential, hybrid, and online programs for undergraduate and graduate degrees at our main campus in Cullowhee; at WCU in Asheville located at Biltmore Park; and wherever students are through distance learning.

Cullowhee, North Carolina

Western Carolina University's main campus is in Cullowhee, North Carolina, just over 50 miles west of Asheville and just under 30 miles east of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Our 600-acre mountain campus is surrounded by one of the most biodiverse regions in the state that provides students unparalleled learning and adventure opportunities. Named the #1 Outdoor Adventure School, our Cullowhee campus' proximity to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park provides research and discovery access for a wide variety of programs.

CONFERENCE HOST, PARTNERS, AND SPONSORS

- Western Carolina University:
 - WCU Provost's Office
 - WCU Hunter Library
 - Mountain Heritage Center
 - Department of English Studies

- Department of Cherokee and Indigenous Studies
 - Department of History
 - Cherokee Language Program
 - Ron Rash, Distinguished Professor of Appalachian Studies
 - Blue Ridge Pride
 - Museum of the Cherokee People
 - Cherokee Preservation Foundation
 - Sylva Belles
 - Sylva Pride
 - Marshall University
 - Appalachian Center, University of Kentucky
 - *Appalachian Journal*, Appalachian State University
 - Center for Appalachian Studies, Appalachian State University
 - East Tennessee State University, Department of Appalachian Studies
 - Erica Abrams Locklear, UNC Asheville, *Appalachia on the Table: Representing Mountain Food and People*, University of Georgia Press
 - Madville Publishing
 - Ohio University Press
 - University Press of Kentucky
 - BREAD HEADS
 - Innovation Brewing
 - Lazy Hiker Brewing
-

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Directions to Western Carolina University

WCU is in Cullowhee, North Carolina. We are approximately 3 hours from Atlanta and an hour from Asheville. The university is located directly off State Route 107/East Main Street.

Shuttle Service from Airport

Shuttle service from Asheville, NC airport to Sylva, NC: Click [HERE](#).

Parking

Parking is free on campus during spring break. Recommended lots are the Field House Lot, Coulter Lot, Forsyth Drive Lot, UC Upper Lot, and Print Shop Lot.

There will be a shuttle running from 8:00 am – 10:00 am and 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm Friday and Saturday from the Field House Lot to the UC Upper Lot. Parking elsewhere may be taken, so it is recommended to park in the Field House lot and shuttle in.

In the event that someone does receive a ticket, please turn the ticket in to conference staff or to the Parking Operations Office.

Conference activities are in University Center, Coulter, Forsyth, Killian, and Hunter Library.

This [link](#) highlights a map of recommended parking lots, accessible parking spaces, and buildings used during the conference.

Campus Maps

Click [here](#) for an interactive Conference Buildings & Parking Spaces map.

Accommodations

You may view the full listing of accommodation options at this [LINK](#).

Visitor Information

Jackson County Chamber & Visitor Center

Visitors Bureau

8:30 am to 4:30 pm weekdays, closed weekends, 773 W Main St Sylva, NC 28779

<https://www.mountainlovers.com/>

This historical building doubles as the Chamber of Commerce and is the place to find maps, brochures, and local event calendars for your time in Jackson County.

Food on Campus

Starbucks @ Courtyard, located on campus

Courtyard Dining Hall

160 West University Way

Cullowhee, NC 28723

Open 9:00 am – 7:00 pm, March 7, 8, and 9

Chili's, located on campus

Noble Residence Hall, First Floor

723 Centennial Drive

Cullowhee, NC 28723

Open 4:00 pm – 9:00 pm, March 7, 8, and 9

Local Places to Eat

The Cat's Table

Restaurant

7:00 am to 9:00 pm Wednesday through Saturday; 7:00 am to 2:00 pm Sundays;

11:00 am to 9:00 pm Mondays and Tuesdays

4685 Little Savannah Rd, Cullowhee, NC 28723

<https://www.thecatstable.net/>

The Cat's Table is an American/International restaurant serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner most days. Their menu includes southern classics like Chicken and Waffles, and Biscuits and Gravy, as well as Tacos and Black Bean Burgers.

This is where most WCU students, faculty, and staff grab a meal during the day. Get it, Catamounts and the "Cat's" Table...?

ILDA

Southern Italian Restaurant

Open Wednesday – Sunday 5pm – 9pm

Monday – Tuesday Closed

462 W Main St

Sylva, NC 28779

828.307.2036

<https://www.ildainsylva.com/#about-section>

Innovation Cullowhee

Brewery

12:00 pm to 9:00 pm Monday through Saturday; 2:00 pm to 8:00 pm Sundays

732 Centennial Dr, Cullowhee, NC 28723

Located on WCU campus, Innovation Cullowhee (also known as "Innowhee") is one of Innovation's three locations in Jackson County. Innovation hosts events such as trivia nights and even sells to-go options. Innovation's hours may be subject to change during spring break; you can check out "Innovation Cullowhee" on Facebook for updated hours!

RODGERS BROS

Restaurant

11:00 am – 10:00 pm everyday

2968 Old Cullowhee Road

Cullowhee, NC 28723

[Rodgers Bros - Cullowhee, NC](https://www.rodgersbros.com/)

Mad Batter Kitchen

Restaurant

11:30 am to 9:00 pm everyday

617 W Main St, Sylva, NC 28779

<https://www.madbatterkitchen.net/>

A quick ten-minute drive will get you to Mad Batter, an American/Pizza restaurant with gluten free, vegetarian, and vegan options.

Mad Batter hosts brunch on Saturdays and Sundays from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm!

Lucy in the Rye

Restaurant

Open every day besides Tuesdays, from 7:45 am to 2:00 pm

612 W Main St Sylva, North Carolina 28779

<https://www.lucyintherye.com/>

Lucy in the Rye specializes in breakfast and lunch, with vegetarian and vegan options, and even a so-called “Disco Waffle.” Lucy in the Rye can even deliver to campus. Check out their website for more information or call them directly at (828) 586-4601 for info on bakery items.

Quirky Bird Treehouse & Bistro

Bistro and Bar

Tuesday and Wednesday from 11:00 to 9:00, Thursday through Saturday from 11:00 to 10:00

148 Front St., Dillsboro, NC, United States, North Carolina

Quirky Bird has everything from spirits to square pizzas. They share a kitchen with Front Street Take out, so check out their mobile order site for more information.

<https://frontstreettakeout.com/> <https://www.facebook.com/QuirkyBirdsTreehouse>

Lulu’s On Main

Restaurant

On Monday - Thursday, lunch is from 11:30 am to 3:00 pm, with dinner between 5:00 pm and 8:00pm. On Fridays and Saturdays, lunch is from 11:30 am to 3:00 pm, with dinner between 5:00 pm and 9:00 pm.

678 West Main Street Sylva, NC 28779

Lulu’s offers mesquite pork belly, mushrooms and goat cheese, pork tostada—and that’s just the appetizers! Take a look at their full dinner and lunch menus on their website for more information on their burgers, salads, and entrees. Reservations are recommended for dinner.

<https://lulusonmain.com/menus/>

White Moon Cafe

Cafe and Bar

Mondays and Tuesdays from 7:00 am to 7:00pm, Wednesdays through Saturdays 7:00 am to 12:00 am, Sundays from 7:00 am to 10:00 pm.

White Moon is where to go for bagels, breakfast bowls, and lattes. And after 7:00 pm on Wednesday through Sunday, check out the cafe’s secret cocktail bar, Dark Moon.

<https://www.whitemoonnc.com/location/white-moon-sylva/>

Balsam Falls Brewing Co.

Brewery

545 Mill St, Sylva, NC 28779

Open weekdays from 12:00 to 10:00 pm, and weekends from 10:00 am to 10:00 am.

Enjoy beer, cider and cocktails all made in house, as well as a variety of food from wings to flatbreads, and fried cheesecake.

<https://www.whitemoonnc.com/location/white-moon-sylva/>

Paul's Family Restaurant

Restaurant

Open 12:00 to 9:00 pm on Tuesdays, and 11:00 am to 9:00 pm every other day

1111 Tsali Blvd, Cherokee, NC 28719

Paul's serves classics such as Fry Bread tacos, elk burgers, and rabbit, as well as seafood, steak, and desserts. Though Cherokee is a 30-minute drive, you don't want to miss it.

(828) 497-9012

REGISTRATION

All conference attendees, including presenters, must pay the registration fee or receive an ASA scholarship. Pre-paid conference registration is \$175 (individual) and \$115 (student). The deadline for pre-paid registration is February 21, 2024. Late or on-site registration is \$215 (individual) and \$155 (student).

To register, go to [HERE](#) or complete the form at the back of this program. The on-site conference registration desk will be located on the third floor of the A.K. Hinds University Center, Illusions Room. Registration includes ASA membership for the 2024 calendar year, subscription to the *Journal of Appalachian Studies*, access to the *Appalink* newsletter, and participation in all 2024 conference activities that do not require a ticket.

ONE-DAY K-12 TEACHER RATE

The steering committee has approved a one-day conference rate of \$50 for K-12 Teachers. Membership in the ASA is not included in the one-day rate but may be added. K-12 teachers who choose the one-day rate and later decide to attend the full conference may upgrade from the \$50 daily rate to the full registration rate (membership included) by paying the difference of \$125 at the Registration Desk.

Please email asa@marshall.edu to request the K-12 Teacher registration. You may mail the completed form with payment to Appalachian Studies Association, One John Marshall Drive, Huntington, WV 25755. If mailing, please do so no later than **February 26**, and call to pay with a credit card. You may also pay onsite at the registration desk during the conference.

FINAL PROGRAM

The *final program* will be in a printable, digital format. It will be provided in a reduced file size, searchable PDF format via a website link provided to those who register for the conference. The ASA will not be providing printed programs.

The *schedule of sessions* will be included in the digital *final program*. In addition, we will be selling a printed copy of the *schedule of sessions* for \$5.00. These copies will be front and back and will contain **only** the *schedule of sessions* and no other information from the *final program*. To order a copy, call the ASA office

at (304) 696-2904 by Feb. 28, 2024. We accept credit card payments over the phone. We will have a very limited number of printed *schedule of sessions* available for sale at the Registration Desk, and they will be sold on a first come, first serve basis. We can accept cash, check, and credit cards at the Registration Desk.

RECORDING NOTICE

ASA reserves the right to record and use images of those attending our conferences. If you do not wish to be photographed or recorded, please let the photographer and/or Registration Desk know.

CONFERENCE LOGO SHIRTS AND TOTE BAG

They're here! Get your order in today for the amazing "Beloved Community" shirts and tote bags from Mountain Mindful for the annual Appalachian Studies Conference, March 7 - 9, 2024 at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, North Carolina.

Conference shirts/tote bags are available to pre-order until Feb. 12, 2024. All orders will arrive by 3/1/24. [ASA Pre-Order – Mountain Mindful](#).

The conference logo was created by Scott Ashley at Western Carolina University. Learn more about the logo on the ASA website.

TEACHER CERTIFICATION OF PARTICIPATION FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Pre-K-12 teachers participating in the conference can have their attendance documented for possible professional development units. Teachers will need to obtain an attendance sheet from the registration desk, identify the convener or host in each session they attend, and have them sign the sheet. At the conclusion of the conference, teachers must submit their attendance sheet to the Registration Desk and after all hours are tallied, they will be able to obtain a signed Appalachian Studies Association certificate, verifying their attendance and the number of participation hours. It is the responsibility of the teachers to confirm with their respective school districts that their conference participation will count toward professional development units.

SUPPORTING SCHOLARSHIPS THROUGH THE SILENT AUCTION

Contribute Items to the Silent Auction! Support Scholarships for Those Who Otherwise Could Not Attend!

We are currently seeking contributions for the Howard Dorgan Silent Auction for the 2024 Appalachian Studies Conference. The silent auction welcomes Appalachia focused swag and experiences including books, clothing, food, music, and craft bundles. Please start brainstorming now!

Once the site is open, you may send a description of your donation to Betterworld, a platform that allows donors to upload information about their items. To help us make the 2024 Howard Dorgan Silent Auction an absolute success, upload photos and descriptions of your items. The more money we raise, the more Appalachian Studies scholars we support!

In the late 1990s, Howard Dorgan created the silent auction to raise funds to support student and community participation in the Appalachian Studies Association—particularly at the conference. All proceeds fund scholarships for people who could not otherwise attend the Appalachian Studies Conference. By contributing to the silent auction—and later placing a bid for items—you are supporting a more diverse and more robust Appalachian Studies Association.

If you would like to volunteer to help with the silent auction, please contact Amanda Page (mandy.page@gmail.com) or Dee Parker (darryl.parker32@gmail.com).

Please pledge your contribution by February 14th! **Fundraising goal: \$6,000**

TECHNOLOGY

Technology for Presenters

We recommend presenters have a copy of their materials on a USB Flash drive, as well as a copy they can retrieve from the cloud (email, Google Drive, etc.). Computer log-in instructions will be provided to facilitators (conveners). Most rooms are equipped with HDMI connections to the overhead projectors for presentations if you prefer to bring your own device. Adapters for connections other than HDMI will not be provided; please bring your own if necessary.

Wi-Fi Access

University guests have access to the WCU-Guest network. Guests will be able to connect to our network by reading and agreeing to the acceptable use policy. This network is open to all users.

Social Media

- **Hashtags:**
- #BelovedCommunity
- #appstudies2024
- #appalachianstudies
- #appalachia
- #appalachian
- #appstudies
- #asa
- #Asainaction
- #asaawards
- #mountainheritage
- **Accounts:**
- @Western_carolina
- @appalachstudies

- @wcu_mhc
- @MountainHeritageCenter
- @Annette_Saunooke_Clapsaddle

Printing and Photocopying

Guests to WCU who would like to print documents must do so in Hunter Library. Payment can be made at the Circulation Desk inside the main entrance. A code will be issued to the guest to release their print job at the PawPrint printer in the library only.

ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION

Individuals with Disabilities

The primary venue for the conference is the *A.K. Hinds University Center* (UC). There are accessible entrances to the center from the parking lot near the Coulter Building and the Bookstore (ramps available at both). There is also an accessible entrance towards Alumni Tower and an elevator inside the building.

Other on Campus locations:

- *Coulter Hall* is a location for concurrent sessions. There are entrances on every side of the building and an elevator.
- *Killian Building* is another location for concurrent sessions. There are entrances on every side of the building and an elevator.
- *Forsyth Hall* is another location for concurrent sessions. There are entrances on every side of the building and an elevator.
- *Hunter Library* is the farthest building on campus and will host the Publishers and Newcomers' Celebration. There is one entrance to the front of the building. There are ramps available and an elevator inside the building.

The library will be open 8:00 am - 5:00 pm on Thursday and Friday of the conference, and during the Publishers and Newcomers' Reception on Saturday 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm.

This [link](#) highlights a map of recommended parking lots, accessible parking spaces, and buildings used during the conference.

Quiet Space

Quiet space is available to attendees on the third floor of the University Center (UC). Two small conference rooms, UC 321 and UC 322, are available for use throughout the conference. Other quiet areas can be found Thursday and Friday on the lower level of the Hunter Library.

First-Time Attendees

First-time attendees are invited to wear ribbons which are available at registration. Everyone is encouraged to seek out our new members to make them feel welcome. Please join us in welcoming our newcomers at the Publishers' Book Signing and Newcomers Reception on Saturday, 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm in the Hunter Library, first floor, enter through the Mountain Heritage Center Gallery.

Pronoun Stickers

There are pronoun stickers available at registration. ASA would like to thank Sylva Pride for their generous donation of these stickers.

Childcare Grant Program

Click [HERE](#) for Childcare Grant Program Guidelines

COVID-19

WCU follows the guidance of the Center for Disease Control as well as the World Health Organization. Please see WCU's updated information at this [LINK](#).

EXHIBITORS, VENDORS, AND GROUPS

Exhibitors, vendors, and groups are invited to exhibit in the ASA exhibition area, located in the Grand Room on the third floor of the A.K. Hines University Center (UC). Contact Ann E. Bryant (mullins88@marshall.edu) for further information, and to see if space is still available.

Set-up:

- Thursday 10:00am-2:00pm
- Friday 7:00am-9:00am.

Take down:

- Sunday 8:00am-12:00pm.

Exhibit area open to the public:

- Thursday 2:00 pm-5:30 pm.
- Friday 8:00 am-5:30 pm.
- Saturday from 8:00 am-5:00 pm.

Directions for Vendors

We will be sending an email with additional information and any changes soon.

WHERE EVERYTHING HAPPENS ON CAMPUS

Click [HERE](#) for an interactive Conference Buildings & Parking Spaces map.

A.K. Hines University Center (referred to as UC throughout)

- Registration, Illusions Room, third floor
- Exhibit Hall, Grand Room, third floor
- Silent Auction, Illusions Room, third floor
- Poster Sessions, UC 214 Cardinal & UC 212 Dogwood, second floor
- Film Screenings, UC Theater, Room 315
- ASA Meetings
- Gender Inclusive Rest Rooms, ground floor
- Quiet Space, UC 321 Saluda Room and UC 322 Pisgah Room, third floor

Bardo Fine & Performing Arts Center

- ASA Business Meeting, Green Room
- Conference Opening Ceremonies, Performance Hall
- Awards & In Memoriam, Performance Hall
- Opening Reception and Social Hour/Steering Committee Meet & Greet, Star Atrium

Hunter Library

- Camp Happy Appalachian Luncheon and button making (Scholars Studio)
- Publishers' Book Signing and Newcomers Reception, enter through the Mountain Heritage Center Gallery on the first floor of Hunter Library
- Printing & Copying
- Quiet Space on lower level

Coulter Building

- Concurrent Sessions
- Plenary, Coulter Recital Hall

Forsyth Building

- Concurrent Sessions
- LGBT Lounge, Forsyth 214
- Y'ALL Lounge and Workshop, Forsyth 235
- Appalachian Collegiate Research Initiative Lounge (formally known as the Appalachian Teaching Project), Forsyth 213
- Quiet Rooms, Forsyth 114 and Forsyth 115

Killian Building

- Concurrent Sessions

GATHERING SPACES

- **Appalachian Collegiate Research Initiative** (formally known as ATP). Catch up with other teaching fellows throughout the conference in Forsyth 213.

- **Publishers Space**, UC 336 Cherokee Room, third floor
 - **Exhibitors & Staff Lounge**, UC 344 Nantahala Room, third floor
 - **LGBT Lounge**, Forsyth 214
 - **Y'ALL Lounge and Workshop**, Forsyth 235
 - **Quiet Rooms**: UC 321 Saluda Room; UC 322 Pisgah Room; Forsyth Building, Rooms 114 and 115.
Additional quiet space on the lower level of the Hunter Library during open hours Thursday and Friday.
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POSTER SESSIONS

Posters will be displayed throughout the conference in the University Center on the second floor in two adjacent rooms, UC 214 Cardinal and UC 212 Dogwood. Presenters will be available to share their research from 2:30 pm – 3:45 pm on Friday, March 8 in the poster rooms. Free-standing easels will be available with 3' x 4' foam core boards. Binder clips will be supplied to attach posters to the board. The foam core boards can be oriented either vertically or horizontally.

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Thursday Highlights

Judaculla Rock

Thursday, March 7, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm; Trips are at 10:00 am and 11:30 am.

Register in Advance: [HERE](#)

Join Brett Riggs, WCU Distinguished Professor of Anthropology and Sociology, on a guided tour to Judaculla Rock.

Judaculla Rock derives its name from 'Tsul'kālū', or 'Tsu-tla-ka-la, a powerful hunter spirit from Cherokee lore. It is a soapstone rock with petroglyphs carved by Native Americans from about 500 A.D. to 1700. It contains more petroglyphs than any other known location east of the Mississippi River.

Free transportation to Judaculla Rock is available at 10:00am and 11:30am. There are 18 available seats in each trip. Vans will leave from the back entrance of A.K. Hinds University Center, 245 Memorial Dr, Cullowhee, NC 28723.

If you are unable to join the guided tour, you may visit Judaculla Rock during daylight hours. The address is 552 Judaculla Rock Rd, Cullowhee, NC 28723.

Mountain Biking Excursion with Annette Saunooke Clapsaddle

Thursday, March 7, 11:00 am

Meet at **BCOutdoors - Cherokee**, 516 Tsali Blvd, Cherokee, NC 28719, just off highway 441 and just outside the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and Blue Ridge Parkway entrance.

Register in Advance [LINK](#):

Fire Mountain Trail System is located in Cherokee, NC (22 miles from WCU) and offers 11 miles of connected, multi-use trails for visitors to enjoy year-round.

Author and local mountain biker, Annette Saunooke Clapsaddle, will lead interested conference attendees on a casual, no-drop mountain bike ride at Fire Mountain. In the process, she will share a little about the history and culture of the Eastern Band Cherokee and their ancestral lands.

Ride length and difficulty will be participant-driven, but all routes provide a safe and appropriate experience for even casual riders. *All minors must be accompanied by an adult.* BCO Outdoors

Cherokee offers daily bike rentals for those who do not have their own and the trail is accessible via bike from their store.

The official trailhead is located in the upper parking lot adjacent to the Oconaluftee Indian Village at 160 Indian Village Rd. If time allows, we will gather at BCO after the ride and enjoy a cold beverage and selections from local food trucks!

Guided Botanical Walk

Thursday, March 7, 12:30 pm

Registration Required

Register for location information.

Cost: \$25

Adam Bigelow of Bigelow's Botanical Excursions will be offering a two-hour guided nature walk in Sylva at 12:30 pm. Cost is \$25 per person. RSVP through this [form](#) and Adam will contact you with details on payment and where to meet.

These walks will be slow and intentional with many stops along the way to look at, photograph, and learn about the beautiful diversity of Plants and Wildflowers in Southern Appalachia while also enjoying beautiful views and waterfalls, and other special places. Often, after walking and looking at flowers, learning their many names, stories, and relationships to each other, to us and to the world around us for two and-a-half hours, we are no more than a 20 to 25-minute walk back to our vehicles. Yet, we may have covered more than 50 species of Plants along the way.

ASA Members Business Meeting

Thursday, March 7, 3:00 pm – 3:45 pm

Bardo Fine Arts Center, Green Room

Please join us for the ASA Business Members Meeting. All welcome!

Opening Ceremony, Awards, & In Memoriam

Thursday, March 7, 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Bardo Fine Arts Center, Performance Hall

The Appalachian Studies Association conference will officially begin with an opening ceremony. Welcome remarks by ASA President Travis Rountree, Western Carolina University Provost Richard Starnes, and Sylva Town Council member Natalie Newman, immediately followed by the Awards Ceremony and In Memoriam. Doug Van Gundy will serve as the emcee of the Awards Ceremony and In Memoriam.

Opening Reception & Social Hour/Steering Committee Meet & Greet

Thursday March 7, 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Bardo Fine Arts Center, Star Atrium

Please join us for fellowship and music prior. Appetizers and bar service will be available in the Bardo Lobby from 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm. *Sponsored by Western Carolina University's Office of the Provost.*

Friday Highlights

ASA Conference 5K Fun Run

Friday, March 8, 8:00 am

Registration Opens at 7:00 am, in the courtyard between Killian, Coulter, Forsyth and Killian Annex.

This is a 5K untimed fun run through WCU's campus. Terrain will consist of road and dirt trails. The course features some mild hills but is accessible for those with strollers or wheelchairs. Mugs will be given as participation swag to the first fifty people to arrive at the start line.

“Story and Place in Appalachia: Pop-up Listening Lounge with Blue Ridge Public Radio”

Friday, 8:00 am – 6:00 pm

UC 215 Catamount Conference Room

Join Blue Ridge Public Radio for a pop-up listening lounge featuring regional speakers and activities celebrating the culture, histories, and perspectives of Western North Carolina and Appalachia.

Conversation will be curated by arts and culture advocate Marie T. Cochran and BPR senior regional reporter Lilly Knoepp. Snacks and drinks provided.

Morning Snack Break in the Exhibit Hall

Friday, March 8, 10:00 am – 11:00 am

UC 309 Illusions Room, 3rd Floor

Sponsored by East Tennessee State University Department of Appalachian Studies.

Jam Sessions Welcome

Friday, March 8, 10:00 am – 11:00 am

UC 226 Raleigh Room, 2nd Floor

Bring your instruments and join us for jam sessions. All welcome!

Camp Happy Appalachee Luncheon & Button Making Event

Friday, March 8, 11:45 am-1:00 pm

Hunter Library, Scholars Studio

In co-sponsorship with the University of Kentucky Appalachian Center and Blue Ridge Pride, the Appalachian Studies Association (ASA) will host the 12th mostly annual (since the first CHA at EKU in 2011) Camp Happy Appalachee LGBTQ gathering at the 2024 ASA conference. This informal event includes lunch and welcomes all LGBTQ-identifying folks and allies in an inclusive, comfortable environment. There will also be a button-making station for creating custom keepsakes from the conference and reception. Contact Tammy Clemons, tammy.lynn.clemons@gmail.com, for more information about the event or asa@marshall.edu to request accessibility accommodations.

Afternoon Snack Break in the Exhibit Hall

Friday, March 8, 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm
UC 309 Illusions Room, 3rd Floor

Sacred Harp Community Singing

Friday, March 8, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
A.K. Hines University Center, UC 227 Raleigh Room

All are welcome to participate in this singing session. *The Sacred Harp* is a shape-note songbook first published in Georgia in 1844. It has remained in constant use since its publication, serving as a focal point for participatory singing in the Southern Appalachians. At this session, we will provide a brief introduction to the shape-note system and say a few words about the history of Sacred Harp singing. However, our primary objective is to sing! We will be joined by Sacred Harp singers from around the area, so you will have the opportunity to sit next to a confident singer. Books will be provided. Please join us!

KEYNOTE

“Writing Of, In, and For Place”

Friday, March 8. Coulter Recital Hall

Book signing 5:00 pm – 5:45 pm

Conference Keynote 6:00 pm

What is it like to experience specific landscapes and communities through writing? What are the author’s responsibilities? Presenter Annette Saunooke Clapsaddle addresses these questions as she discusses her debut novel, *Even as We Breathe*. Books will be available for purchase and signing through local bookseller City Lights Bookstore beginning at 5:00 pm. Lecture immediately following at 6:00 pm.

Released by the University Press of Kentucky in 2020, the novel was a finalist for the Weatherford Award and named one of NPR’s Best Books of 2020. In 2021, it received the Thomas Wolfe Memorial Literary Award. Clapsaddle is an enrolled citizen of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and resides in Qualla, NC with her husband, Evan and sons Ross and Charlie. She holds degrees from Yale University and the College of William and Mary.

Dance in Sylva with The Toe River Trainspotters

Friday, March 8, 7:30 pm – 9:30 pm
Jackson County Library and Historic Courthouse in Sylva, NC
310 Keener Street, Sylva, NC

Reception at Innovation Brewery Dillsboro

40 Depot St, Dillsboro, NC 28725

Saturday Highlights

“Story and Place in Appalachia: Pop-up Listening Lounge with Blue Ridge Public Radio”

Saturday 8:00 am to 5:15 pm

UC 215 Catamount Conference Room

Join Blue Ridge Public Radio for a pop-up listening lounge featuring regional speakers and activities celebrating the culture, histories, and perspectives of Western North Carolina and Appalachia. Conversation will be curated by arts and culture advocate Marie T. Cochran and BPR senior regional reporter Lilly Knoepp. Snacks and drinks provided.

Morning Snack Break in the Exhibit Hall

Saturday, March 9, 10:15 am – 11:15 am

UC 309 Illusions Room, 3rd Floor

Jam Sessions Welcome

Saturday, March 9, 10:15 am – 11:15 am

UC 226 Raleigh Room, 2nd Floor

Bring your instruments and join us for jam sessions. All welcome!

PLENARY

“Of This Place: A Conversation on Black Appalachia and Whiteness”

Saturday, March 9, 1:00 pm – 2:15 pm

Coulter Recital Hall

Discussants:

- Marie T. Cochran, educator, arts & culture advocate, founding curator Affrilachian Artist Project, Black Appalachian Coalition Narrative Organizer
- Wilburn Hayden, Past President of ASA, former Professor of Social Work at Western Carolina University, Professor Emeritus School of Social Work, York University, Toronto, Ontario
- David Joy, novelist
- Meredith McCarroll, educator, author, Past President of ASA 2021/2022, Associate Editor, *Journal of Appalachian Studies*

Y’ALL Workshop

“An Exploration of Appalachian Digital Humanities”

Saturday, March 9, 2:30 pm – 3:45 pm

Forsyth, Room 235

In this workshop, we will discuss the emerging field of digital humanities and how it can apply to new understandings of Appalachia and Appalachian Studies. We will explore digital archives, open-source scholarship, and accessible online preservation methods. We will work together to create a collaborative digital map of our experiences in Appalachia.

Afternoon Snack Break in the Exhibit Hall

Saturday, March 9, 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm

UC 309 Illusions Room, 3rd Floor

Jam Sessions Welcome

Saturday, March 9, 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm

UC 226 Raleigh, 2nd Floor

Bring your instruments and join us for jam sessions. All welcome!

Publishers Book Signing & Newcomers Reception

Saturday, March 9, 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Hunter Library, entrance through the Mountain Heritage Center Gallery on the first floor of Hunter Library

Calling all bibliophiles and Appalachia enthusiasts! Mingle, enjoy light refreshments, and get your books signed. All conference attendees are welcome. Co-hosted by WCU Hunter Library Special Collections, WCU Mountain Heritage Center, and WCU Coulter Faculty Commons.

The Publishers' Book Signing is co-sponsored by the following publishers/authors. Books and authors will be available for the book signing.

Publisher Co-sponsors:

Madville Publishing

Ohio University Press

University Press of Kentucky

Author Co-sponsors:

Author Erica Abrams Locklear, UNC Asheville, *Appalachia on the Table: Representing Mountain Food and People*, University of Georgia Press

Evening entertainment includes:

- A demonstration by the Cherokee Language Repertoire Choir, which uses the Christian Harmony shape note tradition, but instead of singing it in English, this choir sings in the Cherokee language.
- Special Collections exhibit about the removal of the Cullowhee AME Zion Church, an event covered in plenary speaker David Joy's book *Those We Thought We Knew*
- Mountain Heritage Center exhibit "A Century of Cherokee Maskmaking"

Mad for Drag Presents *Hills 'n Heels*

Saturday March 9, 9:00 pm

Lazy Hiker Brewing, Sylva, NC

Partial proceeds to benefit Sylva Pride.

Tickets sold at the door, price TBA. Admission 18 and up.

EXHIBITS OF INTEREST

"A Century of Cherokee Maskmaking"

Mountain Heritage Center, Western Carolina University

176 University Drive, Cullowhee, NC 28723

Thursday and Friday, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Free

Western Carolina University - Exhibits & Artifacts (wcu.edu)

Cashiers Historical Society

1940 State Route 107, Cashiers, NC 28717

Trails and Grounds are open from dawn to dusk.

Tours of historic homes available by appointment, call (828) 743-7710

Free; donations welcome

<https://www.cashiershistoricalsociety.org/>

Note: This site requires a slightly longer commute, at just over thirty minutes.

Museum of the Cherokee People

589 Tsali Blvd., Cherokee, NC 28719

Exhibition closed for renovation

Museum Store will be open Monday – Friday, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Free; donations welcome

<https://motcp.org/>

Qualla Arts & Crafts Mutual, Inc

Traditional Cherokee basketry, beadwork, pottery and more (for sale and on display)

645 Tsali Blvd, Cherokee, NC, 28719

Mon - Sat: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm; Sun: 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Free

<https://quallaartsandcrafts.org/>

“Spark of the Eagle Dancer: The Collecting Legacy of Lambert Wilson”

Bardo Fine Arts Center

Western Carolina University

199 Centennial Dr, Cullowhee, NC 28723

Thursday, 10:00 am – 7:00 pm; Friday, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Free

<https://www.wcu.edu/bardo-arts-center/>

“Women in Appalachian Music”

Appalachian Women’s Museum

100 W Hometown Pl, Dillsboro, NC 28725

Saturday, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Tours of historic home available by appointment, friends@appwomen.org

Free; donations welcome

<https://www.appwomen.org/>

MEETINGS

- **ASA COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

- **Special Collections Committee**
Friday, March 8, 7:00 am-8:30 am
A.K. Hines University Center, UC 138 Tuskegee Room
- **Steering Committee Meeting**
Virtual TBA
- **Other ASA Meetings**
Virtual TBA
- **ASA MEMBERS BUSINESS MEETING**
- **ASA Members Business Meeting**
Thursday, March 7, 2024, 3:00pm-3:45pm. Bardo Fine Arts Center, Green Room
- **OTHER MEETINGS**
- **Appalachian Collegiate Research Initiative** (formerly known as the Appalachian Teaching Project) catch- up with other teaching fellows throughout the conference in the Forsyth Building, Room 213.
- **The Online Encyclopedia of Appalachia Project**
Friday, March 8, 5:15 pm. Killian, Room 220, directly following Encyclopedia Roundtable, session 5.16 (same room).

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE AND OVERVIEW

THURSDAY			
10:00 AM	5:30 PM	Exhibit Hall Set Up	UC 302 Grand Room, 3 rd Floor
10:00 AM	2:00 PM	Registration Set Up	UC 309 Illusions Room, 3 rd Floor
10:00 AM	1:00 PM	Judaculla Rock trips 10:00 and 11:30	Vans leave from back entrance of A.K. Hines University Center (UC)
11:00 AM	12:30 PM	Bike Ride with Annette Saunooke Clapsaddle	Meet at Bryson City Outdoors, Cherokee, NC
12:30 PM	2:30 PM	Guided Botanical Walk/Bigelow's Botanical Excursions	Register to receive location information
2:00 PM	5:30 PM	Exhibit Hall Open	UC 302 Grand Room, 3 rd Floor
2:00 PM	5:30 PM	Registration Open	UC 309 Illusions Room, 3 rd Floor
10:00 PM	5:30 PM	Silent Auction Set Up	UC 309 Illusions Room, 3 rd Floor
12:00 PM	5:30 PM	Poster Set Up	UC 214 Cardinal & UC 212 Dogwood
3:00 PM	3:45 PM	ASA Members Business Meeting	Bardo Fine Arts Center, Green Room
4:00 PM	6:00 PM	Opening Ceremony, Awards, & In Memoriam	Bardo Fine Arts Center, Performance Hall
6:00 PM	7:00 PM	Opening Reception & Steering Committee Meet & Greet	Bardo Fine Arts Center, Star Atrium
8:30 PM	10:00 PM	Events	TBA
FRIDAY			
7:00 AM	9:00 AM	Exhibit Hall Set Up continues...	UC 302 Grand Room, 3 rd Floor
7:00 AM	9:00 AM	Poster Set Up continues...	UC 214 Cardinal Room & UC 212 Dogwood Room
7:00 AM		Registration for 5K Fun Run	Courtyard between Killian, Coulter, Forsyth, & Killian Annex
8:00 AM		5K Fun Run Starts	Courtyard between Killian, Coulter, Forsyth, & Killian Annex
8:00 AM	5:30 PM	Exhibit Hall Open	UC 302 Grand Room, 3 rd Floor
8:00 AM	5:30 PM	Registration & Silent Auction Open	UC 309 Illusions Room, 3 rd Floor
8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Posters Open	UC 214 Cardinal & UC 212 Dogwood
8:00 AM	6:00 PM	BPR Listening Room	UC 215 – Catamount Room
9:00 AM	10:15 AM	Concurrent Session 1	
10:00 AM	11:00 AM	Jam Sessions Welcome	UC 226 Raleigh Room, 2 nd Floor
10:00 AM	11:00 AM	Morning Snack Break	UC 309 Illusions Room, 3 rd Floor
10:30 AM	11:45 AM	Concurrent Session 2	
11:45 AM	1:00 PM	Lunch on Your Own	
11:45 AM	1:00 PM	Camp Happy Appalachee Luncheon & Button Making	Hunter Library, Scholars Studio
1:00 PM	2:15 PM	Concurrent Session 3	

2:30 PM	3:45 PM	Concurrent Session 4	
2:30 PM	3:45 PM	Poster Session	UC 214 Cardinal & UC 212 Dogwood
4:00 PM	5:00 PM	Afternoon Snack Break	UC Illusions Room, 3 rd Floor
4:00 PM	5:15 PM	Concurrent Session 5	
4:00 PM	6:00 PM	Sacred Harp Community Singing	UC 227 Raleigh Room
6:00 PM	7:00 PM	Keynote	Coulter Recital Hall
7:30 PM	9:30 PM	Dance in Sylva, NC	Jackson County Library and Historic Courthouse
		Reception	Innovation Brewery Dillsboro
SATURDAY			
8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Exhibit Hall Opens	UC 302 Grand Room, 3 rd Floor
8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Registration and Silent Auction Open	UC 309 Illusions Room, 3 rd Floor
8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Posters Open	UC 214 Cardinal & UC 212 Dogwood
8:00 AM	5:15 PM	BPR Listening Room	UC 215 – Catamount Room
9:00 AM	10:15 AM	Concurrent Session 6	
10:15 AM	11:15 AM	Morning Snack Break	UC Illusions Room, 3 rd floor
10:15 AM	11:15 AM	Jam Sessions Welcome	UC 226 Raleigh Room, 2 nd Floor
10:30 AM	11:45 AM	Concurrent Session 7	
11:45 AM	1:00 PM	Lunch on Your Own	
12:00 PM	12:00 PM	Close of Silent Auction, Auction Item Pick Up	UC 309 Illusions Room, 3 rd Floor
1:00 PM	2:15 PM	Plenary	Coulter Recital Hall
2:30 PM	3:45 PM	Concurrent Session 8	
2:30 PM	3:45 PM	Y'ALL Workshop in the Y'ALL Gathering Space	Forsyth Building, Room 235
3:30 PM	4:30 PM	Afternoon Snack Break	UC 309 Illusions Room, 3 rd Floor
3:30 PM	4:30 PM	Jam Sessions Welcome	UC 226 Raleigh Room, 2 nd Floor
4:00 PM	5:15 PM	Concurrent Session 9	
5:00 PM	6:30 PM	Publishers' Book Signing & Newcomers Reception	Hunter Library, 1 st Floor, enter through Mountain Heritage Center Gallery
5:00 PM		Shapenote Singing/Cherokee Language Repertoire Choir	Hunter Library
5:00 PM		Cullowhee AME Zion Church Exhibit	Hunter Library, Special Collections
5:00 PM		“A Century of Cherokee Maskmaking” Exhibit	Hunter Library, Special Collections
9:00 PM		Drag Show in Sylva	Lazy Hiker Brewing, Sylva, NC
SUNDAY			
8:00 AM	12:00 PM	Take Down Exhibit Hall and Registration	UC 309 Illusions Room, 3 rd Floor

***JOURNAL OF APPALACHIAN STUDIES* SUBMISSIONS**

The *Journal of Appalachian Studies* is a refereed, multi-disciplinary publication which seeks to provide a written forum for quality scholarship on Appalachian history, culture, and society. We are interested in articles based on original empirical research, including applied research, as well as literary criticism and reflections on conceptual, theoretical, and methodological issues in Appalachian studies. Given the journal's broad readership, we encourage consideration of the wider implications of each study. Submissions must be written in a style that can be understood by non-specialists. We will consider rigorous scholarship from scholars, teachers, activists, and others whose work focuses on the Appalachian region. The current editor invites scholarship which compares the Appalachian region to other regions in the world and places the region in a critical, global context. All submissions are expected to demonstrate an understanding of relevant Appalachian studies literature. Manuscripts must be submitted to our online submission and review portal. Please note that file submissions must adhere to the JAS author guidelines before being uploaded.

Submission Portal is available at this [LINK](#).

CONFERENCE DIGITAL COLLECTION

Conference participants are invited to submit their papers, presentations, videos, images, and posters to the **ASA 2024 Conference Digital Collection** hosted by Marshall Digital Scholar (MDS) by emailing content to Gretchen Beach, MDS Administrator, at: beachgr@marshall.edu.

MDS serves to collect, preserve, and provide global access to scholarly and creative work. This is the site where conference proposals were submitted. Please contact Gretchen Beach for additional information.

SCHEDULE OF SESSIONS

Visit this [LINK](#) for the Preliminary Schedule of Sessions. Please note, this is a draft schedule. All the requested and other changes will be in the Final Program. Registered attendees will receive access one week prior to the conference. On-site registrants will receive a link to the program after registering at the conference.